

Module Title:	Concepts in Sustainable Agriculture
Language of Instruction:	English
Credits:	5
NFQ Level:	6
Module Delivered In	2 programme(s)
Teaching & Learning Strategies:	Formal lectures will be supplemented with field trips and case studies of agri-businesses that have engaged in sustainable management practices. Where appropriate, guest lecturers will be invited to share their knowledge on specific aspects of sustainability.
Module Aim:	This module aims to provide the student with an in-depth understanding of the importance of sustainable food production. The three pillars of sustainability will be covered giving the student the knowledge required to put these concepts into practice in a commercial agricultural setting.
Learning Outcomes	
<i>On successful completion of this module the learner should be able to:</i>	
LO1	Demonstrate an understanding of the key performance indicators for sustainability at farm level
LO2	Identify resources used on farms and strategies that ensure their sustainable use
LO3	Can defend the role of Irish agricultural systems in the sustainable production of food
Pre-requisite learning	
Module Recommendations	
<i>This is prior learning (or a practical skill) that is recommended before enrolment in this module.</i>	
No recommendations listed	
Incompatible Modules	
<i>These are modules which have learning outcomes that are too similar to the learning outcomes of this module.</i>	
No incompatible modules listed	
Co-requisite Modules	
No Co-requisite modules listed	
Requirements	
<i>This is prior learning (or a practical skill) that is mandatory before enrolment in this module is allowed.</i>	
No requirements listed	

Module Content & Assessment
Indicative Content
Environmental KPI

Key environmental performance indicators that apply to farm will be used to critically evaluate farming systems. Reports from Bord Bia and Teagasc will be reviewed to assess current environmental performance of farms along with strategies for improvement

Resource management

Food production is resource intensive which in turn adds considerable cost to the system. Individual case studies from the IFA Smart Farming initiative will be used to examine how the sustainability of a farm can be improved both from a greenhouse gas emission and a biodiversity perspective

Public image of farming

Understanding how the work of Bord Bia and other organisations promotes a positive image of Irish Agriculture.

Assessment Breakdown

	%
Continuous Assessment	50.00%
Project	50.00%

Continuous Assessment

Assessment Type	Assessment Description	Outcome addressed	% of total	Assessment Date
Examination	In class assessment on Learning Outcome 1	1	25.00	n/a
Case Studies	Case study that demonstrates the students understanding of sustainable agriculture	1,3	25.00	n/a

Project

Assessment Type	Assessment Description	Outcome addressed	% of total	Assessment Date
Project	Students are to conduct a case study on a farm that is part of the Smart Farming Initiative or similar reflecting on how the measures taken on this farm could be applied to a farm or agri-business that they are familiar with. Students will present their work to their peers.	1,2,3	50.00	n/a

No Practical

No End of Module Formal Examination

SETU Carlow Campus reserves the right to alter the nature and timings of assessment

Module Workload

Workload: Full Time		
<i>Workload Type</i>	<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Average Weekly Learner Workload</i>
Lecture	12 Weeks per Stage	2.00
Independent Learning	12 Weeks per Stage	3.00
Lecturer-Supervised Learning (Contact)	12 Weeks per Stage	1.00
Total Hours		72.00

Module Delivered In

Programme Code	Programme	Semester	Delivery
CW_SWSFM_B	Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Sustainable Farm Management and Agribusiness	4	Mandatory
CW_SWSFM_D	Bachelor of Science in Sustainable Farm Management and Agribusiness	4	Mandatory